



# The Coyote at Vandenberg SFB



Coyotes are members of the dog family (Canidae) and they have probably been in North America for about **2 million** years!

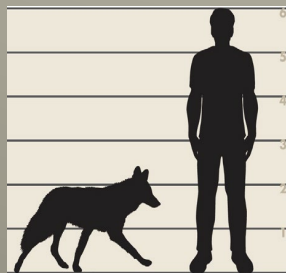
## Did you know?

- Coyotes are active during day and night
- Opportunistic diet
- Can live for up to 14 years and range between **20-50lbs**
- Vital to the ecosystem by regulating rodent populations
- Pets, squirrels, and garbage attract coyotes to human-inhabited areas

Coyotes are fearful of humans by nature until they're given access to human food and garbage. The result may be deadly conflicts with pets, or serious injuries to small children.

## Identification:

- Bushy tail, often black-tipped
- **Smaller** than a Labrador Retriever
- Long ears, pointed tip
- Narrow snout



6ft human to coyote for scale

## What YOU can do:

**Keep it inside!**



**Reduce** the amount of food available to them by keeping garbage in tightly closed containers.

- **Take your garbage out to the street on "pick-up morning," not the night before**
- **Feed your pets indoors**
- **Don't leave pets or small children outside unattended**
- **Never intentionally feed a coyote!**



## Solutions:

**Preventing** coyotes from engaging with human spaces will be the best practice.

- Relocating a problem coyote is not an option because it moves the problem to someone else's neighborhood.
- Hunting and trapping increases coyote populations.

If you encounter a coyote, make **loud** noises and/or **throw rocks** in the animal's direction.

Notify Security Forces, Fish & Game to report any problems animals. (Just seeing a coyote doesn't mean it's a threat - they can be active 24/7).

Security Forces can be reached at **(805) 606-6804** or **(805) 606-3911**.

## **Need More Information?**

Natural Resources Managers with 30CES/CEI are available to educate and advise VSFB residents about coyotes and conflict prevention (and other wildlife). Call **(805) 606-4198** or **(805) 605-8399**.

**Just because a coyote is out in daylight, don't assume it's rabid, aggressive or dangerous... (it's probably just happy to be alive!)**